

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The norm should show objectively the ascertained length of time needed by a worker of average skill and strength to produce a given article, but actually such is not the case under the Communist system. In Rumania a norm is based on an operation in all its phases, executed by a worker selected from the best. For example: in a garment factory, to make a pair of trousers, all operations are executed by highly skilled workers. The norm thus established is then forwarded to the next higher echelon for examination. Here the norm is arbitrarily lowered and the time period which has been established is reduced by people who are not specialists and who do not know the work. In the meantime, pending examination of the norm, the workers are paid provisionally on that basis. The norm takes months to be approved and adjusted. As the worker has been paid on the basis of the provisional norm, his wages are then reduced and the excess amount he has received is withheld in addition. 25X1
2. Before a norm is approved, it is examined by a study committee composed of the chief engineer or technician of a factory, the factory Communist Party representative, and other technicians. This examination is purely formal as it is the job of the Party representative to set the norm as low as possible. If a worker does manage to fulfill the norm, he cannot earn more than 300 to 400 lei a month and must supplement his wages by taking outside jobs.
3. In the Progressive Shoemakers Cooperative most of the workers earned from 80 to 300 lei monthly in 1954. They worked eight hours a day in the factory, but because of the lack of raw materials, could not meet the norm. They were forced to work at home illegally with raw materials obtained on the black market. These materials originated for the most part from thefts from State enterprises. Many shoemakers, both cooperative and private, were arrested as a result. Besides the shortage of materials and the risk they take, craftsmen must also contend with high taxes as a result of new regulations of the Finance Ministry which are from 10,000 to 25,000 lei.

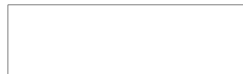
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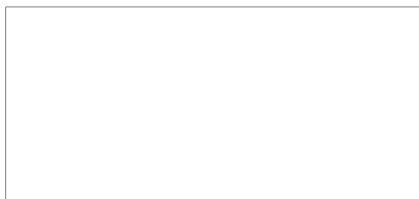
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4. In order to use every minute of a worker's time, the Party has put into effect the system of social competition. Their object is to increase quality and quantity. There can be no question of improvements in quality because of the inferior quality of most raw materials and the excessive amount of waste material which has to be used. Increases in quantity are sometimes achieved if the supply of raw materials permits, but this does not happen often. The workers are lectured on the advantages of these competitions and urged to participate. The majority are forced to sign the pledge and go through the motion of participating in this program. The results are pictured in graphic form daily and posted at the place of work. All results are tabulated in the labor and wage office, but the figures are purely arbitrary.
5. Outstanding workers are made leading workers or Stakhanovists. Their pictures are exhibited on notice boards in every raion. One is struck by the exhausted and emaciated faces of the workers. The title of Stakhanovist is not easy to obtain. Besides being a robot worker, the man must be a Party member or a candidate, must never criticize the regime, nor complain of living conditions. He must be present at all meetings and parades and be a child of poor workers.
6. Stakhanovists, when they are sent to a resort for rest, are given special living quarters, and they alone have the right to take their families with them. The Rumanian Government has a villa and hotel above Sinaia where only Stakhanovists and distinguished guests of the Government are accepted. Hospitals, sanitoriums, and clinics are available for Stakhanovists only.



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